

**EFFECTIVE POTENTIAL CALCULATION OF THE MSSM
LIGHTEST CP-EVEN HIGGS BOSON MASS***

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I summarize results of two-loop effective potential calculations of the lightest CP-even Higgs boson mass in the minimal supersymmetric standard model.

Computing the lightest CP-even Higgs boson mass is the most important loop calculation in the minimal supersymmetric standard model because of the paramount importance of a precise m_{h^0} value to the Higgs boson experimental discovery. Tree-level supersymmetry relations require that the Higgs field quartic coupling be related to the electroweak gauge couplings; therefore they impose a strict upper bound $m_{h^0} \leq m_Z$, which is already in conflict with the current lower limit from LEP 2.

It is well-known that this tree-level limit can be drastically changed by radiative corrections. One-loop calculations¹ show that incomplete cancellations of the top and stop loops give positive corrections of the form

$$\Delta m_{h^0}^2 = \frac{3h_t^2 m_t^2}{4\pi^2} \ln \frac{m_t^2}{m_{\bar{t}}^2}, \quad (1)$$

where m_t and $m_{\bar{t}}$ are top and stop masses respectively. This formula, however, suffers from an ambiguity in the definition of m_t . Numerically, using running or on-shell top-quark mass can amount to about 20% difference in $\Delta m_{h^0}^2$. The problem can only be resolved by an explicit two-loop calculation.

Two-loop calculations in the existing literature have used two different approaches: (a) a renormalization group resummation approach², and (b) a two-loop diagrammatic approach^{3,4,5}. In the first approach, leading and next-to-leading logarithmic corrections are calculated by integrating one- and two-loop renormalization group equations. However, two-loop non-logarithmic finite corrections are not calculable in principle. The second approach was initiated by Hempfling and Hoang³ using an effective potential method; they restricted their calculation to specific choice of supersymmetry parameters: *i.e.* large $\tan\beta \rightarrow \infty$ and zero left-right stop mixing. Two-loop QCD corrections were later computed at more general cases⁵ in the effective potential

*Contribution to PASCOS99: 7th International Symposium on Particles, Strings and Cosmology, Granlibakken, Tahoe City, California, 10-16 Dec 1999.

approach. m_{h^0} to the same two-loop QCD order was also computed⁴ using an explicit diagrammatic method. These calculations incorporate both two-loop logarithmic and non-logarithmic finite corrections. In the following, I shall concentrate on the effective potential approach.

The general way of calculating corrections to CP-even Higgs boson mass is to compute Higgs self-energy and tadpole diagrams to the required loop order. In an effective potential approach, these diagrams can be derived from a generating functional, *i.e.* the effective potential, by taking explicit derivatives with respect to the Higgs fields. These quantities then enter the MSSM CP-even Higgs boson mass-squared matrix as follows

$$\mathcal{M}_h^2 = \begin{bmatrix} m_Z^2 c_\beta^2 + m_{A^0}^2 s_\beta^2 + \Delta\mathcal{M}_{11}^2 & -(m_Z^2 + m_{A^0}^2) s_\beta c_\beta + \Delta\mathcal{M}_{12}^2 \\ -(m_Z^2 + m_{A^0}^2) s_\beta c_\beta + \Delta\mathcal{M}_{21}^2 & m_Z^2 s_\beta^2 + m_{A^0}^2 c_\beta^2 + \Delta\mathcal{M}_{22}^2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

where $\Delta\mathcal{M}_{ij}^2$ represents radiative corrections to the ij -entry. We note that all these corrections are computed at the zero external momentum limit; sometimes it is necessary to calculate self-energy diagrams directly to account for corrections from non-zero external momenta.

The CP-even Higgs boson masses can be calculated by diagonalizing the above matrix in eq. (2). This computation is tedious but can be greatly simplified when one considers the case $m_{A^0} \gg m_Z$, where m_{A^0} is the mass of the pseudoscalar A^0 . In this case, we find the corrections to $m_{h^0}^2$ is

$$\Delta m_{h^0}^2 = \frac{4m_t^4}{v^2} \left(\frac{d}{dm_t^2} \right)^2 V - \text{Re } \Pi_{hh}(m_{h^0}^2) + \text{Re } \Pi_{hh}(0). \quad (3)$$

where V is the effective potential, v the Higgs field VEV, and the last two terms account for non-zero external momentum corrections.

We have carried out this calculation procedure to the two-loop order including leading QCD⁵ and top Yukawa⁶ corrections. To illustrate our analysis, we present an approximation formula which is derived under the following assumptions: the soft masses for left and right stops, gluino, heavy Higgs bosons and Higgsinos have a common mass M_S , where M_S can be identified as the supersymmetry scale. The two eigenvalues and mixing angle of stops are then accordingly $m_{t_1}^2 = m_t^2 + m_t X_t$, $m_{t_2}^2 = m_t^2 - m_t X_t$ and $s_t = c_t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, where the average top-squark mass $m_t^2 = M_S^2 + m_t^2$, and $X_t = A_t + \mu/\tan\beta$ is the left-right stop mixing parameter.

We find the approximation formula for two-loop QCD+top Yukawa corrections is⁶ (in terms of on-shell mass parameters)

$$\Delta m_{h^0}^2 = \frac{3m_t^4}{2\pi^2 v^2} \left(\ln \frac{m_t^2}{m_t^2} + \hat{X}_t^2 - \frac{\hat{X}_t^4}{12} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{\alpha_s m_t^4}{\pi^3 v^2} \left(-3 \ln^2 \frac{m_t^2}{m_{\tilde{t}}^2} - 6 \ln \frac{m_t^2}{m_{\tilde{t}}^2} + 6 \hat{X}_t - 3 \hat{X}_t^2 \ln \frac{m_t^2}{m_{\tilde{t}}^2} - \frac{3 \hat{X}_t^4}{4} \right) \\
& + \frac{3 \alpha_t m_t^4}{16 \pi^3 v^2} \left\{ s_\beta^2 \left(3 \ln^2 \frac{M_S^2}{m_{\tilde{t}}^2} + 13 \ln \frac{M_S^2}{m_{\tilde{t}}^2} \right) - 1 - \frac{\pi^2}{3} + c_\beta^2 \left(60K + \frac{13}{2} + \frac{4\pi^2}{3} \right) \right. \\
& + \left[3 s_\beta^2 \ln \frac{M_S^2}{m_{\tilde{t}}^2} - c_\beta^2 \left(\frac{69}{2} + 24K \right) + 41 \right] \hat{X}_t^2 - \left(1 + \frac{61}{12} s_\beta^2 \right) \hat{X}_t^4 + \frac{s_\beta^2}{2} \hat{X}_t^6 \\
& + c_\beta^2 \left[(3 - 16K - \sqrt{3}\pi)(4 \hat{X}_t \hat{Y}_t + \hat{Y}_t^2) + \left(16K + \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \hat{X}_t^3 \hat{Y}_t \right. \\
& \left. \left. + \left(-\frac{4}{3} + 24K + \sqrt{3}\pi \right) \hat{X}_t^2 \hat{Y}_t^2 - \left(\frac{7}{12} + 8K + \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{3}} \right) \hat{X}_t^4 \hat{Y}_t^2 \right] \right\}, \quad (4)
\end{aligned}$$

where the constant $K \simeq -0.195$. We note that two-loop QCD corrections depend only on $\hat{X}_t = X_t/m_{\tilde{t}}$ while the top Yukawa corrections depend on $\hat{Y}_t = (A_t - \mu \tan \beta)/m_{\tilde{t}}$ as well. This approximation formula is good to a level of 0.5 GeV for most of the parameter space.

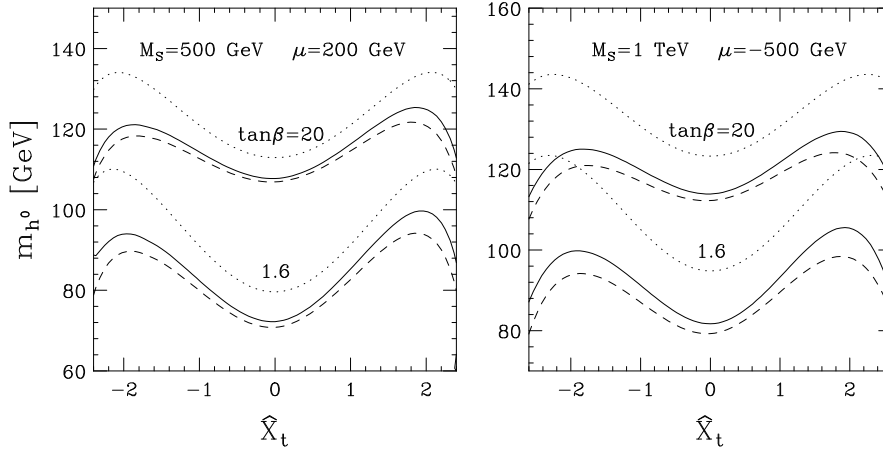


Figure 1. Higgs boson mass m_{h^0} versus \hat{X}_t . The dotted, dot-dashed and solid lines correspond to Higgs boson masses calculated to the orders of one-loop, two-loop QCD and two-loop QCD+top Yukawa respectively.

Fig. 1 shows the Higgs boson mass m_{h^0} vs. the stop mixing parameter \hat{X}_t , for different choices of M_S , μ and $\tan \beta$. The two-loop QCD corrections agree well with other approaches⁴. They generally decrease m_{h^0} from their

one-loop values by 10 – 20 GeV depending on the parameter choice. Two-loop Yukawa corrections are sizeable for large stop mixings, in particular, for $\hat{X}_t \simeq \pm 2$ two-loop Yukawa corrections can increase m_{h^0} by about 5 GeV.

Another interesting feature observed in the literature^{4,5} is that two-loop corrections shift the maximal mixing peaks. At the one-loop level, these peaks are at $\hat{X}_t = \pm\sqrt{6}$. It is easy to see from eq. (4) that the size of shifts is about 10%, *i.e.* the peaks move to $\hat{X}_t \simeq \pm 2$. This is confirmed by Fig. 1.

Finally, renormalization group resummation technique can be used to derive a particularly nice mass correction formula which has clearer physical interpretations. We find eq. (4) can be transformed into the following form by using solutions to the renormalization group equations

$$\Delta m_{h^0}^2 = \frac{3\overline{m}_t^4(Q_t)}{2\pi^2\overline{v}^2(Q_1^*)} \ln \frac{m_t^2(Q_{\text{th}})}{\overline{m}_t^2(Q_t')} + \frac{3\overline{m}_t^4(Q_{\text{th}})}{2\pi^2\overline{v}^2(Q_2^*)} \left[\hat{X}_t^2(Q_{\text{th}}) - \frac{\hat{X}_t^4(Q_{\text{th}})}{12} \right] + \Delta_{\text{th}}^{(2)}, \quad (5)$$

where $Q_1^* = e^{-1/3}m_t$, $Q_2^* = e^{1/3}m_t$, $Q_t = \sqrt{m_t\overline{m}_t}$, $Q_t' = (m_t\overline{m}_t^2)^{1/3}$ and $Q_{\text{th}} = m_{\tilde{t}}$, \overline{v} and \overline{m} are the Standard Model $\overline{\text{MS}}$ parameters. These choices of scales for evaluating one-loop corrections automatically take into account two-loop leading and next-to-leading logarithmic effects. The leftover finite correction term $\Delta_{\text{th}}^{(2)}$ is understood as two-loop threshold corrections and numerically small; its detail form can be found in a forthcoming paper⁶.

I thank J. R. Espinosa for collaborations. This work was supported in part by a DOE grant No. DE-FG02-95ER40896 and in part by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation.

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